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## **Pensacola Young Professionals Seeks to Establish a Community Development Corporation**

Pensacola Young Professionals (PYP) continues to fulfill their mission of being a catalyst for positive change in the Pensacola Bay Area through establishing the Community Development Corporation.

At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on July 19, 2018, members of PYP's board of directors presented a resolution calling for the establishment of a Community Development Corporation. This resolution passed 5-0.

This Corporation will assemble private and public stakeholders currently serving to address gaps in our community to develop and implement a community development strategic plan. This strategic plan will allow the community and leaders to better connect resources, funding opportunities, and volunteers, and allow community organizations to sustain and grow their current efforts.

The idea for the Community Development Corporation originated through findings in the Annual Quality of Life Survey. This survey polls 800 registered voters in Escambia County, Florida, to determine the overall quality of life in our community. Results show that 78% of respondents are very or somewhat familiar with the difference between economic development and community development; 65% of respondents rate the coordinating of economic and community development by government, community, and business leaders in Escambia as fair or poor; and 69% of respondents would support the development of a Community Development Corporation in Escambia County. Additionally, PYP has received support for the Community Development Corporation from other organizations, businesses, and individuals. Full data on these questions are below. The full survey results and report will launch in the coming weeks.

*How familiar are you with the difference between economic development and community development?*

Very Familiar = 23%  
Somewhat Familiar = 55%  
Not too familiar = 17%  
Not familiar = 5%

*How would you rate the coordinating of economic and community development by government, community and business leaders in Escambia?*

Excellent = 6%  
Good = 27%  
Only Fair = 45%  
Poor = 19%  
DK = 3%

*Do you support or oppose the creation of a community development corporation in Escambia, County?*

Support = 69  
Oppose = 23  
Undecided = 9

For more information or to be a part of this Community Development Corporation, please contact PYP at [info@pensacolayp.com](mailto:info@pensacolayp.com)

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The mission of the Pensacola Young Professionals is share a passion for and belief in our community, and to act as a catalyst for positive change in the Pensacola Bay Area. To learn more about Pensacola Young Professionals or to join our membership please visit [www.pensacolayp.com](http://www.pensacolayp.com)